TB Technical Assistance
Experience from Bangladesh

Shaikh Altaf Ali, Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Prof. Dr. Pravat Chandra Barua, Director MBDC & Line Director TB/Lep, DGHS
Dr. Md. Abdul Hamid Salim, Country Director & Medical Advisor Damien Foundation
Mechanism of involving partners

- 1994: NGOs involved in Leprosy control programme (Damien Foundation, Lepra, The Leprosy Mission…) and BRAC were invited by the government to involve in the TB control programme.

- 1994: First MoU signed between Ministry of Health & NGOs working as a partner of NTP specifying tasks and responsibilities of each partner.

- 2004: with GFATM support, more NGOs were involved, especially in metropolitan areas.
Damien Foundation’s collaboration with NTP

- Bangladesh is considered as a model for Government and NGO partnership in TB Control

- Damien Foundation involved in TB control programme since 1994 through a MOU with the Ministry of Health.

- DF supports implementation of TB control activities in 13 districts (101 upazilas), 5 medical colleges and in Dhaka Export processing zone, in 12 jails covering 27 million

- Supporting other NGOs (MDR, EQA, X-ray training, drug distribution, etc.)
Damien Foundation
Major achievements

- Since 1997 provides MDR TB managements through establishing culture laboratory in the project areas.

- Establishing drug resistant monitoring through routine culture and DST of failures and relapses.

- 2008 setup of 1st regional culture and DST laboratory and expanding diagnosis and treatment of MDR in Rajshahi division (30 million population).

- Conduct operational research and publication.
Damien Foundation
Major achievements

- Establish community based DOT through engaging Village doctors, cured patients and local elites

- Social mobilization through cured patients
Mechanisms of NTP and NGO collaboration

• Formation of different committees: TB and Leprosy coordination committee, TB technical Committee and various sub-committee, PR NGO Steering Committee
• Joint activities: Planning, training, supervision, publications, review
• Regular coordination meeting at different levels
TB Technical Committee plays the role of TBTEAM in the country
Structure of TB technical committee

**Convener:** Director MBDC and Line Director TB and Leprosy- Program

**Member Secretary:** Programme Manager NTP,

**Members:**
- Government: Deputy Director MBDC,
- National NGOs (BRAC, UPHCP, NATAB,)
- International NGOs (Damien Foundation, Smiling Sun Franchise)
- Research institute: ICDDR’B
- Specialized Hospitals (National Institute of Chest Diseases Hospital Dhaka)
- International and bilateral partners (WHO, USAID)
- Professional organization: Bangladesh Private Medical Practitioners Association
**TA coordinating mechanism**

- The TB Technical subcommittee plays an important role to prepare and revise TA plans—identify TA needs and ways to address them.
- National strategic plan 2006-2010 to control TB is prepared involving partner NGOs.
- Broad areas of TA requirements are identified in annual activity plans.
TA coordinating mechanism (cont..)

- TOR of each TA finalized by TB technical committee

- TA facilitated by WHO, TB CTA

- NTP and WHO communicate information on planned international TA with SEARO and with technical partners.

- Individual partners (NGOs) also identify TAs based on their needs and coordinate with the government.
Funding for TA

• Since the initiation of GFATM support in the country most TA funding are foreseen under GF. However, TB CAP, WHO also fund some TA.
• Damien Foundation, Lepra also supports financially some TA for their own activities.
TA requested in 2008

- DOTS-plus TOT and strengthening of DR TB funded by GF (one lab and one prog management)
- Two monitoring visits for TB prevalence survey (Epidemiologist of KNCV) funded by USAID
- 1st Managing Information For Action training –making use of data for programme management funded by GF and WHO
- Practical approach to Lung health funded by GF
- TB-HIV funded by GF
- GF proposal development for round 8 funded by WHO
- Grant negotiation for phase II of round five funded by WHO
- GDF mission
TA requested in 2009 (Jan-Mar)

- PPM and MDR TB funded by WHO
- To prepare Monitoring and Evaluation plan funded by GF
- HRD funded by GF
- Laboratory network review funded by TB CAP
- GLC mission
- DRS protocol development by WHO
**Planned TA (2009)**

- Assessment of procurement capacity of NTP will be funded by GF
- Development of drug management course will be funded by GF/GDF
- Support for data analysis for prevalence survey
- Laboratory support specially for culture and DST
- DOTS-Plus
- TB-HIV
- PAL
**Support from TBTEAM**

- Identification of consultants:
  - TB-HIV
  - HRD
- Assessment of consultant report
Challenges

1) Identification of bottlenecks in programme implementation
2) Defining of clear TORs
3) Identification of appropriate consultants
4) Adhering to time frame of GF work plan
5) Inconsistent advice from different TAs in overlapping areas
6) Cost related to TA
Thank you